

United States Department of Interior 1005 Selway Drive

Bureau of Land Management

Dillon Field Office Dillon, Montana 59725

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## PROPOSED DILLON RMP and FINAL EIS AVAILABLE, PROTEST PERIOD BEGINS

DILLON (April 25, 2005) – The Proposed Resource Management Plan (RMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the public lands and mineral estate administered by the Bureau of Land Management's Dillon Field Office is now available.

The affected BLM lands and minerals are in southwest Montana in Beaverhead and Madison Counties.

The BLM, along with Beaverhead and Madison Counties as cooperating agencies, have worked with the public for the past three years in development of this plan. The Proposed RMP/Final EIS contains responses to public and agency comments received on the Draft RMP/EIS released last year as well as adjustments made as a result of those comments.

Copies of the document were sent to interested parties previously requesting one. Printed copies of the Proposed RMP/Final EIS are also available for review at the following locations in southwest Montana: Commissioners' Offices of Beaverhead and Madison Counties, BLM Offices in Dillon, Butte, Ennis and Missoula, Forest Service Offices in Sheridan, Wisdom, and Wise River, public libraries in Bozeman, Butte, Dillon, Ennis, Twin Bridges, and Whitehall, the Lima Town Hall, and the Red Rocks Refuge in Lakeview. Copies are also available in either

paper copy or compact disk (CD) format and may be requested by contacting Renee Johnson at (406) 683-8016. Due to technical issues with websites maintained by the Department of the Interior, the Dillon RMP website is currently not available for document viewing.

A 30-day protest period ends May 31, 2005. A protest may only raise issues that were submitted for the record during the planning process. Protests must be submitted in writing and mailed to the following address: Regular Mail: Director (210), Bureau of Land Management, Attn: Brenda Williams, P.O. Box 66538, Washington DC, 20035. Overnight Mail: Director (210), Bureau of Land Management, Attn: Brenda Williams, 1620 L Street N.W., Suite 1075, Washington, DC 20036. To be considered timely, your protest must be postmarked no later than the May 31 deadline. No extensions will be granted.

For general information call the BLM Dillon Field Office at 683-2337, or for information on the Proposed RMP/Final EIS contact Renee Johnson at 683-8016.